



OKLAHOMA STATE
DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: The State Department of Education

FROM: Stacy Eden

DATE: July 25, 2025

SUBJECT: Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship

The Hive Learning Lab (THLL) request approval to participate in the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship for Students with Disabilities program. They are accredited through The Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE).

THLL is a microschool specifically designed to support students receiving special education services. The school offers a range of individualized support tailored to each student's learning level, including whole-child instruction, hands-on activities, art, music, and nature-based guided learning, along with opportunities for free-choice learning. THLL will also provide contracted occupational and speech therapy services for students who qualify. Each student will have a personalized learning plan, with ongoing data collection to monitor progress. The school actively encourages family involvement to support optimal learning and growth.

Included is compliance documentation that meets certain criteria in the application.

- Criteria 1: Fiscal Soundness – Surety Bond
- Criteria 2: Non-Discrimination – Student and Parent Handbook
- Criteria 3: Teacher Requirement – Job Listing
- Criteria 4: Accreditation – OSDE Letter

SE



The Hive Learning Lab PreK-8th
NAME OF PRIVATE SCHOOL GRADE LEVELS

302 North D Street Yale OKla 74085-9998
ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP + 4

918-509-0911 www.thehivelearninglab.com
PHONE NUMBER WEBSITE ADDRESS

Stephanie Thurber
SUPERINTENDENT, HEADMASTER OR PRINCIPAL NAME

Stephanie Thurber sthurber@thehivelearninglab.com
PRIVATE SCHOOL CONTACT FOR LNH CONTACT EMAIL

The Lindsey Nicole Henry (LNH) Scholarship Act requires participating schools to be physical, brick-and-mortar institutions in Oklahoma and meet certain approval criteria. Schools must provide documentation to show they comply, which will be reviewed by the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE). This documentation is often found in the school's policies or handbook. Please prepare a PDF for each item listed below to email with your application.

The OSDE will approve a private school for the scholarship program if it meets the following criteria:

- 1. The private school must demonstrate fiscal soundness by having been in operation for one (1) year or providing the OSDE with a statement by a certified public accountant confirming that the private school is insured and the owner or owners have sufficient capital or credit to operate the school for the upcoming year by serving the number of students anticipated with expected revenues from tuition and other sources that may be reasonably expected. In lieu of a statement, a surety bond or letter of credit for the amount equal to the scholarship funds for any quarter may be filed with the Oklahoma State Department of Education. Proof of compliance required. Save in a PDF, and label it Criteria 1.
2. The private school must comply with the antidiscrimination provision of 42 U.S.C. § 2000d. Proof of compliance required. Save in a PDF, and label it Criteria 2.
3. The private school must employ or contract with teachers who hold baccalaureate or higher degrees, or have at least three (3) years of teaching experience in public instruction in subjects taught. Proof of compliance required. A statement or excerpt from the school policies or handbook stating the educational requirement for the teaching staff is acceptable documentation. Save in a PDF, and label it Criteria 3.

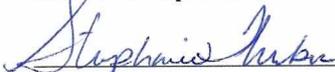
4. The private school must meet the accreditation requirements set by the SDE or another accrediting association approved by the OSDE. **Please type the name of your accrediting agency in the box below. Save the accreditation approval letter or certificate as a PDF, and label it**
Criteria 4. OSDE

5. The private school must be able to provide services and/or accommodations for students with disabilities. **Please describe in detail the services, programs and support you offer to students with disabilities in the box below.**

The Hive Learning Lab is a microschool specifically designed for special education students. Services include whole child learning at each student's learning level, hands on activities, art, music and nature based guided learning, as well as, free choice learning. The Hive will have contracted OT and speech services for those that qualify. The school is set up specifically for AUT students and their sensory needs. Each student will have a personal learning plan, ongoing data collection for progress and encouraged family involvement for optimal learning growth.

I verify that The Hive Learning Lab complies with all the criteria listed above and will provide documentation for each as proof. The information I have provided to the OSDE is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

NAME OF PRIVATE SCHOOL


SIGNATURE

7-25-25
DATE

How to Submit the Private School Application to participate in the LNH Scholarship

1. Save each criterion as an individual PDF, labeling them as "Criteria 1," "Criteria 2," and so on.
2. Email the complete application, along with all required PDF attachments to stacy.eden@sde.ok.gov. You may also contact Stacy at (405) 521-4876.

Criteria 1: Fiscal Soundness



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA BOARD OF PRIVATE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS
3700 N. CLASSEN BOULEVARD, SUITE 250
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73118-2864
PHONE: 405-528-3370

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: PRIVATE SCHOOL BOND

NO: ASC1014547

The Hive Learning Lab, LLC (School Owner, d/b/a) (School Name)
of Yale Oklahoma (City & State) as Principal, and American Surety Company (Surety Company)

authorized to do business in the State of Oklahoma, as surety, are held and firmly bound into the State of Oklahoma in the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents Dollars (\$ 20,000.00) lawful money of the United States of America, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we jointly and severally bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns, firmly by these present.

WHEREAS, under Title 70 O.S. Section 21-101 et seq., as AMENDED, the above name private school is required to be licensed by the Oklahoma Board of Private Vocational Schools before it may operate as a private school; the private school hereby files a bond as required by Title 70 O.S. Section 21-106 (B).

NOW, THEREFORE, the condition of this obligation is such that if said Principal shall faithfully perform each and all of the terms and conditions of all contracts entered into between said Principal and all persons enrolling in said private school, then this obligation shall be null and void; otherwise to remain in full force and effect

Period of coverage beginning 07/10/2025, and continuing through 07/10/2026

Witness our hands and seals this 10th day of July, 2025

The Hive Learning Lab
Stephanie Thumber

School Name
(School Corporate Seal, if any):
The Hive Learning Lab, LLC
Stephanie Thumber
Signature of School Owner or School Corporate Officer

Stephanie Thumber, owner
Type or Clearly Print Name & School Position

American Surety Company
Name of Surety Company

(Surety Seal):
William B. Carmichael
Signature of Attorney-In-Fact for Surety Company

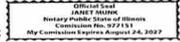
William B. Carmichael
Typed Name of Attorney-In-Fact

On this 10th day of July, 2025 appeared before me William B. Carmichael (Attorney-In-Fact) a person known by me to be one and the same individual as the person by the same name designated as attorney-in-fact on the attached Power-of-Attorney; and, Being duly sworn, the said person did under oath state that the said power-of-attorney is now in full force and effect, whereupon, the said power-of-attorney did sign this surety bond in my presence.

Illinois
State of
Peoria
County of

Dwight Mearl
Notary Public
Commission Number:
My Commission Expires: 08/24/2027

Signature of State Agent for Surety *David Faust* (Notary Seal): #197512
Typed Name of State Agent for Surety *DAVID FAUST*
Address of State Agent for Surety *1429 VALLEY RD
DARTMOUTH, OK. 74003*
Accompany this Bond with Attorney-In-Fact's Power of Attorney





American Surety Company
 PO Box 10558
 Peoria, IL 61612-0558

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Bond No. ASC1014547

Know All Men by These Presents:

That American Surety Company, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Indiana, does by these presents make, constitute and appoint: William B. Carmichael in the City of Peoria State of Illinois, its true and lawful Attorney in Fact, with full power and authority hereby conferred upon him/her to sign, execute, acknowledge and deliver any and all bonds, recognizances, undertakings, or other instruments or contracts of suretyship to include riders, amendments, and consents of surety, providing the bond penalty does not exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents Dollars (\$ 20,000.00) for any single obligation, and specifically for the following described bond.

Principal: The Hive Learning Lab, LLC

Obligee: OK Board of Private Vocational Schools
Type of Bond: OK - Private School Bond
Bond Amount: \$ 20,000.00
Effective Date: July 10, 2025

This Power of Attorney is granted under and by authority of the following resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors of American Surety Company, and now in force to-wit:

"Now, therefore be it Resolved, that the President, Chief Executive Officer, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, or any one of them, be and hereby is authorized, from time to time, to appoint one or more Attorneys-in-Fact to execute on behalf of the Company, as surety, any and all bonds, undertakings and contracts of suretyship, or other written obligations in the nature thereof; to prescribe their respective duties and the respective limits of their authority; and to revoke any such appointment at any time.

Be it further Resolved, that the Company seal and the signature of any of the aforesaid officers and any Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any power of attorney or certificate of either given for the execution of any bond, undertaking, contract of suretyship, or other written obligation in the nature of thereof, such signature and seal when so used being hereby adopted by the Company as the original signature of such officer and the original seal of the Company, to be valid and binding upon the Company with the same force and effect as though manually affixed."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, American Surety Company has caused these presents to be executed by its Attorney in Fact with its corporate seal affixed this 10th day of July, 2025.

ATTEST:

Paul J. Longstreth
 Paul J. Longstreth
 Chief Financial Officer



William B. Carmichael
 William B. Carmichael
 Chief Executive Officer

On this 10th day of July, 2025 before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared William B. Carmichael and Paul J. Longstreth, who being by me duly sworn, acknowledged that they signed the above Power of Attorney as Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, respectively, of the said American Surety Company, and acknowledged said instrument to be the voluntary act and deed of said corporation.

Jaret Munk
 Jaret Munk
 Notary Public



Criteria 2: Non-Discrimination Policy

Introduction

The rules and policies for The Hive Learning Lab outlined in this handbook are the material condition of a contractual agreement between the school and the student and his/her parents/guardians. The administrative team of The Hive Learning Lab has tried to be as explicit as possible in its design, but during the academic year new and unusual circumstances may arise. The Head of School has the authority to use discretion in making decisions regarding unforeseen circumstances, thereby, amending the student handbook for just cause. Parents and students will be given notice when such changes are made. Failure to abide by the regulations and policies of the school handbook by either the student or his/her parent/guardian may result in the student's removal from the school. Currently enrolled families are required to read the Student & Parent Handbook carefully to ensure a thorough understanding of its contents. Both the student and his/her parents must sign the contract acknowledging that they have read and do understand this handbook and agree to be accountable for and supportive of the rules and regulations contained herein. The handbook is on the school website and may be downloaded if desired. The information page requiring signatures will also be available in online enrollment.

Non-discrimination Statement

The Hive Learning Lab admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, scholarship and loan programs.

Standards for All Students and Families

Admission Qualifications

Admissions applications and tuition information are available on the website or during an in-person meeting.

Criteria

- Pre-Kindergarten students must be 4 years old by September 30th .
- Kindergarten students must be 5 years old by September 30th .
- Students must be able to function in a classroom setting without one-to-one supervision and be able to show learning readiness.

Admission Policy/Procedure

Admission Policies: Student and family must agree to work as a team on any and all issues pertaining to the students academic success, learning objectives and goals, behaviors, learning readiness and all other areas of the students day set forth by The Hive Learning Lab.

Criteria 3: Teacher Requirement

Job Title: Special Education Teacher

Location: The Hive Learning Lab

Job Type: Full-Time/Part-Time

Reports To: Stevphanie Thurber, Founder/Admin/Teacher

Job Summary:

We are seeking a compassionate and dedicated **Teacher** to support students with diverse learning needs in a small education classroom. The ideal candidate will work closely with the lead teacher to provide individualized support, assist with classroom management, and help create an inclusive and engaging learning environment.

Key Responsibilities:

- Assist the lead teacher in implementing individualized learning programs, goals and lesson plans.
- Provide one-on-one or small-group support to students with special needs.
- Help students with academic tasks, social skills, and behavioral management.
- Support students with personal care needs, including feeding, toileting, and mobility, if necessary.
- Reinforce positive behaviors and provide emotional and social support.
- Modify learning materials and activities to accommodate student needs.
- Maintain a safe, clean, and structured classroom environment.
- Monitor and document student progress and behavior, reporting to the teacher as needed.
- Assist with classroom setup, organization, and preparation of learning materials.
- Collaborate with teachers, therapists, and other staff to support student development.
- Supervise students during transitions, lunch, recess, and field trips.

Qualifications & Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Education, Special Education, or related field preferred).
- Experience working with children, preferably 2 years or more with those with special needs.
- Strong communication, patience, and teamwork skills.
- Ability to follow teacher instructions and work independently.
- In depth understanding of child development and classroom management.
- CPR and First Aid certification (or willingness to obtain).
- Ability to lift and assist students if needed.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Previous experience in a special education setting.
- Knowledge of behavior intervention strategies and assistive technology.
- Letter of recommendation from a previous work experience related to working with children.

If you are passionate about making a difference in the lives of students with special needs, we encourage you to apply!

How to Apply:

Please submit your resume and a cover letter to Stephanie Thurber, sthurber@thehivelearninglab.com



**OKLAHOMA
Education**

7/22/2025

**Stephanie Thurber
The Hive Learning Lab
302 North D Street
Yale, OK 74085**

Dear **Stephanie Thurber**,

On behalf of the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE), I am pleased to inform you that **The Hive Learning Lab** has successfully achieved **accreditation, with the OSDE**. This recognition reflects your commitment to providing a high-quality educational environment that meets the rigorous standards set forth by the OSDE.

Your efforts in developing and submitting a comprehensive application, along with your dedication to excellence in governance, curriculum, operations, and student services, have been commendable. As an accredited institution, your school is now recognized as meeting the standards necessary to deliver a robust and supportive educational experience for your students.

Please be advised that accreditation is an ongoing process. The OSDE will continue to provide support and guidance as you maintain compliance with state requirements and pursue continuous improvement. Your Regional Accreditation Officer will be in contact to schedule any necessary follow-ups or provide further assistance.

Congratulations to you, your staff, and your school community on this significant accomplishment. We look forward to partnering with you in your ongoing journey to uphold the standards of excellence in education.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 405.522.1643.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Courtney Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

**Courtney Anderson
Program Manager, School Choice
Oklahoma State Department of Education
405.522.1643**